

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 408

By Watson

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Wally's of Chattanooga
on the occasion of its eightieth anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should recognize those exemplary businesses that, through their unwavering commitment to excellence, are a credit to this State; and

WHEREAS, one such remarkable establishment is Wally's in Chattanooga, which is celebrating its eightieth year of operation; and

WHEREAS, the classic city diner was opened by Wallace "Wally" Alexander in 1937 during the height of the Great Depression; it was known as a place to get a good meal and have a chat with friends; and

WHEREAS, by the 1950s, with its drive-in feature and carhops delivering food on roller skates, Wally's had become the hangout for teenagers heading out for a night on the town or just cruising; and

WHEREAS, a change to the menu was made during the 1970s and 1980s; with fast food chains on the rise, then-owner Tony Kennedy pushed for more meat dishes and fresh vegetables, and today Wally's is best-known as a "meat and three" diner; and

WHEREAS, in 1989, Mr. Kennedy opened a second Wally's location in East Ridge; the second location retains all of the warm, friendly atmosphere of the original Wally's but has the added amenities of private rooms for community events and a gargantuan buffet; and

WHEREAS, today, both Wally's locations are operated by Tony Kennedy's stepsons, Gary Meadows, who runs the original location on McCallie Avenue, and Glen Meadows, who runs the second location in East Ridge; and

WHEREAS, Wally's serves a variety of delicious menu items, including its famous fried catfish, crispy chicken, hearty meatloaf, hot and gooey macaroni and cheese, fresh collard greens, and large breakfast specials; and

WHEREAS, for eighty years, the patrons of Wally's have frequented this fine dining establishment for its well-cooked meals and friendly atmosphere, making it an icon of the Chattanooga community today and for many years to come; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend the owners and staff, both past and present, of Wally's on the occasion of its eightieth anniversary and extend them our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.